

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3279

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

REF: (A) STATE 151404 (B) KUWAIT 2271

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO MAKE MANY FIRM APPOINTMENTS YET FOR WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS (WHF), AND THIS MAY BE THE CASE UP TO LAST MINUTE, GIVEN PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH VIP GROUP VISITS TO KUWAIT. WE HAVE MADE ARRANGMENTS FOR BRIEFING/LUNCH/TOUR AT KUWAIT OIL COMPANY AND HAVE REQUESTED MEETINGS WITH KEY MINISTERS. AS NOTED REF (B) ONE PROBLEM WILL BE ABSENCE OF SOME OFFICIALS. SUGGEST TRIP ORGANIZERS CONSULT WITH AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS IN WASHINGTON REGARDING HIS PREFERENCES WITH RESPECT TO DINNER OR RECEPTION.

2. IF POSSIBLE, WE HOPE TO ARRANGE PROGRAM HERE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

FRIDAY JULY 25: ARRIVE 1305 AT KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM SHIRAZ. MET AT VIP LOUNGE BY CONTROL OFFICER, ACTING DCM RICHARD W. BOGOSIAN. AS WHF KNOW FRIDAY IS LOCAL HOLIDAY, AND WEATHER WILL BE VERY HOT. THEREFORE, RECOMMEND TWO ALTERNATIVES FOR THAT AFTERNOON:

ALTERNATIVE A: RENT AIR CONDITIONED BUS AND TOUR KUWAIT AND ENVIRONS. BUS WILL COST ABOUT \$75 PER

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DAY. (FYI LITTLE SHOPPING WILL BE POSSIBLE FRIDAY END FYI).

ALTERNATIVE B: AFTERNOON FREE.

DURING EVENING RECOMMEND INFORMAL POOLSIDE SUPPER AND BRIEFING WITH MR AND MRS BOGOSIAN TO BE HOSTS AND AMBASSADOR AND MRS STOLTZFUS PRESENT.

3. SATURDAY, JULY 26; MORNING TO BE DEVOTED TO CALLS ON MINISTERS OR UNDERSECRETARIES. WE HAVE ASKED FOR MEETINGS WITH MINISTER FINANCE, OIL, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ELECTRICITY AND WATER, WHO EITHER BECAUSE OF THEIR JOBS OR THEIR PERSONALITIES OR BOTH ARE MOST INTERESTING FIGURES IN CABINET. FYI SUNDAY IS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DAY AND VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO MEET CABINET MEMBERS THAT DAY. END FYI. AT 1:00 PM GROUP WILL ARRIVE IN AHMADI FOR KOC BRIEFING/LUNCH/TOUR OF OIL FIELD AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS. DURING EVENING AMBASSADOR STOLTZFUS WOULD HOLD RECEPTION OR DINNER IN HONOR WHF.

4. SUNDAY, JULY 27: EMBASSY HOPES TO BE ABLE TO ARRANGE MEETINGS WITH OAPEC SECRETARY-GENRRAL ALI ATTEEQA AND WITH KFAED DIRECTOR-GENERAL ABDALATIF AL-HAMAD, IF THEY ARE GOING TO BE HERE. WHF WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE KUWAIT CITY AT ABOUT 11:00 AM TO CATCH 12:30 FLIGHT TO CAIRO.

5. COMMENT: IF WE CAN ARRANGE ABOVE SCHEDULE, WE BELIEVE WHF WILL FIND KUWAIT PORTION OF THEIR TRIP STIMULATING AND INFORMATIVE. ALMOST CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT SEVERAL OF THE MORE INTERESTING OFFICIALS WILL NOT BE HERE. MINISTER OF FINANCE ATEEQI AND OAPEC SYG ATEEQA GOING ON HOLIDAY SOON AND THEY MAY BE OUT OF COUNTRY WHILE WHF HERE. MOREOVER, AS NOTED ABOVE, UNLIKELY THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE PIN LOCAL OFFICIALS DOWN UNTIL ALMOST LAST MINUTE.
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